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## ORIGINAL

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND 2 TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE 3 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF SALT RIVER PROJECT Docket No. L00000B-04-0126 AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND 5 POWER DISTRICT ON BEHALF OF ITSELF - Case No. 126 AND ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE 6 COMPANY, SANTA CRUZ WATER AND POWER DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, 7 SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION COOPER-ATIVE, INC. AND TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE 8 REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED 9 STATUTES SECTION 40-360, et. seq., FOR A) CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL 10 **COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING** CONSTRUCTION OF THE PINAL WEST TO 11 SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BROWNING PROJECT INCLUDING THE CONSTRUC-12 TION OF TRANSMISSION LINES FROM PINAL WEST TO THE BROWNING SUB-13 STATION AND OTHER INTERCONNEC-TION COMPONENTS IN PINAL AND 14 MARICOPA COUNTIES, ARIZONA 15 **NOTICE OF FILING** 16 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Applicant, Salt River Project Agricultural 17 18 Improvement and Power District is filing its Phase I Witness Summaries of Gary Harper, 19 Robert Kondziolka and the Witness Panel, consisting of Ray Hedrick, Janeen Rohovit 20 21 Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED 22 23 24

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2 Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2004. 3 JENNINGS, STROUSS & SALMON, P.L.C. 5 6 7 8 9 10 ORIGINAL and 37 copies of the 11 foregoing filed on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2004 with 12 13 **Docket Control** Arizona Corporation Commission 14 1200 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 15 16 Copy of the foregoing mailed on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2004, to: 17 18 Lisa VandenBerg ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 19 1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 20 Walter W. Meek 21 ARIZONA UTILITY INVESTORS ASSOCIATION 22 2100 North Central, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85067

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By Marian Or Thucker

# Phase One Testimony Summary

## **Gary Harper**

Gary Harper is the Salt River Project Manager of System Operations.

Mr. Harper is responsible for managing the operation of the transmission system. This includes overseeing the operation of the SRP electric system from the power plants through the transmission lines to the SRP load in Maricopa, Graham, and Pinal counties. Mr. Harper is responsible for long term transmission planning and transmission operational plans for daily operation of the system. Mr. Harper is also responsible for computer applications that provide tools to plan and operate the system. Finally, Mr. Harper is accountable for protection, control and communications of all facets of SRP's business, generation, transmission, and distribution.

## **Discussion of Transmission Planning**

Mr. Harper will first discuss transmission planning. The transmission planning function forecasts 10 to 20 years, sometimes longer, to identify transmission needs to serve a growing service territory. Once a transmission line requirement is identified, Mr. Harper's group leads the process to site and permit the line. His responsibility is to ensure that construction takes place in time to meet the load growth as it materializes.

Mr. Harper will then provide a summary of current transmission planning philosophies. SRP has been, and still is, a vertically integrated electric utility which means that SRP serves its customers with all their electric needs. SRP ensures low cost, high value generation, transmission, and distribution services are available to provide for the growing requirements.

Historically, as load grew, SRP sited power plants and the associated transmission together. Typically, SRP would pursue partners so they could take advantage of the economy of scale associated with larger power plants and transmission lines. After the power plant was sited, the transmission line was sited based on an environmentally compatible direct route from plant to service territory. The utility would take into account terrain, landscape features, and environment but generally pursue the most direct and least cost route from the plant to the load. This is how the western U.S. transmission system was built over the last 75 to 100 years.

In the last 10 years, public policy at the Federal level has changed the electric utility business. The industry now conducts its business in segments of generation, transmission, and distribution. Therefore, in planning for future load growth, SRP thinks in terms of 1) generation 2) transmission (500 kV and 345 kV lines) and 3) distribution.

As SRP plans the transmission system today, SRP pursues regional solutions that satisfy moving power to load growth areas with less emphasis on the location of the generation, specifically, where the power plant is located. SRP still pursues partners who have common interests in the benefits of additional transmission facilities.

The Application before the Committee is for a transmission line and associated substations that are required to serve the regional load growth of Pinal County and southeast Maricopa County, as well as provide opportunities to serve areas of southern Arizona. The line also improves the reliability and functionality of the existing transmission system.

## **Project Participants**

Mr. Harper will next discuss the Project participants. Because of the many benefits of this Project, most of the utilities serving central and southern Arizona are participants. First, Salt River Project, which gains a new bulk power source to its growing northern Pinal County service area. Second, Arizona Public Service Company, which gains a pathway to the southern part of its system. Third, Tucson Electric Power, which gains access to a bulk power source to the north and east parts of its system. Fourth, Southwest Transmission Cooperative, which gains a pathway to the Cochise County area. Finally, Santa Cruz Water and Power Districts Association, representing the various electrical and irrigation districts and ED2 gain very important delivery points in their service areas across Pinal County.

## **Introduction of Project**

Mr. Harper will then introduce the Project and utilize a large wall map. Mr. Harper will explain the general objective of the Project is to move power from the recently permitted Pinal West Substation to delivery points in Pinal County and southeastern Maricopa County.

From the Pinal West Substation, the participants plan to construct a 500 kV line to the Santa Rosa/Maricopa Substation. From Santa Rosa/Maricopa Substation, the Project will bring the power to a delivery point in central Pinal County. Depending on the option chosen by the Committee, this delivery point may be a new substation called Pinal South, or an expanded version of the proposed Southeast Valley Substation. Again, this provides a vital source of bulk power supply to this fast growing area, as well as opportunities to move power into southern Arizona.

From Pinal South/Southeast Valley, the Project will interconnect into the existing Browning Substation. This interconnection provides a new path from the Palo Verde area into the eastern part of SRP's system, as well as improving system reliability by creating system redundancy.

## Conclusion

Mr. Harper will conclude by noting that SRP, on behalf of itself and the other participants, has gone to a great deal of effort to present to the Committee a complete and well thought out Application and Project. Throughout these hearings, the Applicant will try to present an appropriate balance of telling the story, yet giving you the hard, direct and substantive

environmental information upon which the Committee can make its decision. The Applicant, on behalf of itself and the other participants, believes this Project fully meets the environmental criteria which guide the Committee's decision.

## Phase One Testimony Summary

## Robert Kondziolka

Robert Kondziolka is the Salt River Project Manager of Transmission Planning.

Part of Mr. Kondziolka's overall responsibility is to develop a plan to anticipate and meet the reliability needs of SRP customers, ensure a safe and reliable delivery path for SRP generation, ensure access to other generation resources for energy purchases, ensure SRP's operations are consistent with the operations of other utilities in the West and in conformance with established reliability criteria, and look for and achieve economies by working on joint projects with other transmission and generation owners.

Dan Hawkins is the Project Manager for this Project and is part of Mr. Kondziolka's team.

Mr. Kondziolka will describe transmission planning and reliability in the Western United States, discuss the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC), and the Western Interconnection. Mr. Kondziolka will also discuss local reliability and planning organizations including the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, the Seams Steering Group-Western Interconnection (SSG-WI), the Western Area Transmission System Task Force (WATS), and the Southwest Area Transmission group (SWAT).

Mr. Kondziolka will discuss the Central Arizona Transmission System (CATS) planning effort. CATS was initiated in 2000 and is a collaborative regional study effort open to all stakeholders involved or interested in electric transmission. The purpose of CATS is the planning of high voltage transmission in the central and southern Arizona areas. The focus of CATS is to anticipate and consolidate all electrical transmission needs in a single plan. CATS was innovative in investigating serving loads in a large geographic area from multiple resource options and not just serving loads of a single utility from a single resource addition.

CATS worked as a separate regional planning entity for three years and issued three reports. Participants were interested transmission and generation owners in the area, local utilities, as well as the ACC staff. The specific objectives of CATS were as follows:

- Improve the use of the existing transmission system for future load growth in central and southern Arizona.
- Increase the power transfer import level into the Phoenix and Tucson areas.
- Increase the power transfer capability between the Phoenix and Tucson areas.
- Encourage future additional generation south of Phoenix and north of Tucson.
- Provide additional transmission capacity to and from the Palo Verde hub.

• Increase import capability to Phoenix and Tucson from the Springerville and Coronado generation sites, where plans for new generation are being considered.

Mr. Kondziolka will discuss the current status of CATS, pointing out the construction of the Winchester Substation and the siting of the Palo Verde to Pinal West Project. Mr. Kondzioka will discuss the timetable for future stages.

Mr. Kondziolka will discuss the projected population growth the Project is expected to serve.

Specifically he will testify to the following studies:

- The projected increase over the past ten years in Maricopa County is 1,108,000 people, which is a 32% overall increase and represents a 2.8% annual compounded growth.
- The projected increase over the past ten years in Pinal County is 470,000 people, which is a 224% overall increase and represents a 12.7% annual compounded growth.
- The projected increase over the past ten years in Cochise County is 20,490 people, which is a 17% overall increase and represents a 1.55% annual compounded growth.
- The projected increase over the past ten years for Pima County is 252,183 people, which is a 27% overall increase and represents a 2.4% annual compounded growth.

Mr. Kondziolka will relate these growth statistics to projected load growth of the participant utilities.

Mr. Kondziolka will discuss the benefits of this Project, which are summarized below:

- The Project increases the load serving capability in the geographic area where the interconnections occur.
- The amount of energy that can be imported to the Phoenix Valley is increased.
- The Project provides access to generation resources at the Palo Verde hub.
- The Project improves the reliability of the extra high voltage transmission system.
- The Project improves the operational flexibility of the extra high voltage transmission system.
- The Project provides opportunities for new load serving substations where the transmission line is located.
- The Project encourages generation to be built in more dispersed locations by providing transmission capacity and interconnection opportunities.
- The Project meets the CATS objectives and provides certainty to planning process and potential generators.

Finally, Mr. Kondziolka will summarize the benefits to each Project participant:

- APS, through the 500/230 kV interconnection at the Santa Rosa Substation, will have access to additional import capability to serve native load into the Phoenix metropolitan area.
- SRP expects a significant increase in its load due to development anticipated in the northern Pinal County area. This Project provides customer load serving capability to

SRP through the development of the Browning interconnection, the SEV/SRP RS-22 Substation, and the SRP RS-19 Substation. The interconnection at the Browning Substation and the SEV Substation will also provide the source for additional 230/69 kV substations in the eastern area of SRP's service territory to accommodate this growth. It also provides SRP with additional access to the Hassayampa Switchyard and all the generation resources connected there.

- TEP's interest in the Project is based on the selection of the Preferred Alignment that provides for the Pinal South Substation. Future interconnection opportunities between a Pinal South Substation and TEP's service area could include the Tortolita, Winchester, or Vail Substations. Any of these interconnections would provide a parallel and redundant path to the presently planned Pinal West to Saguaro/Tortolita line.
- SWTC is participating in this Project, as the Project is expected to provide additional transmission capability and reliability for the SWTC loads in southeast Arizona. SWTC is also studying the feasibility of a future transmission line from Pinal South to the Winchester Substation that would provide another path to the SWTC loads.
- ED3 will plan an interconnection at the Santa Rosa Substation to provide for the additional energy to serve its anticipated load growth. This interconnection will be augmented in the future with the expansion of the Pinal West Substation to provide the reliability requirements to serve the ED3 area loads.
- ED4 will continue to plan for delivery of Palo Verde area resources via this Project. Initially, ED4 will require an arrangement with another transmission provider to deliver to ED4 load serving substations. As the system continues to develop and to meet the expected load growth for the region, ED4 will plan on interconnecting to the Project at the proposed Pinal South Substation. This substation would provide substantial transmission expansion opportunities for the region and interconnect to the existing Western 115 kV (planned to be upgraded to 230 kV in the near future) transmission system.

Mr. Kondziolka will conclude by summarizing the expected timing of the Project:

•	Santa Rosa Interconnection	2007
•	Browning to RS-19 230 kV	2008
•	Browning to Santa Rosa 500 kV	2011
•	Pinal South, SEV and additional 230 kV	10 to 20 yea

Mr. Kondziolka will request a 20 year CEC, consistent with the long range planning objectives of CATS and will summarize need and benefit.

## Phase One Testimony Summary

# Witness Panel Ray Hedrick, Janeen Rohovit and Kenda Pollio

### **Background of Project**

The Project is a result of the CATS study and an integral part of the CATS plan. Following the publication of the CATS study, the CATS participants began soliciting interest in building out portions of the electrical system. In Spring of 2001, the participants understood that there was sufficient interest to move forward with this Project. In August 2001, SRP announced this Project and conducted a solicitation of interest. The solicitation process ended in early 2002 with SRP, APS, TEP, and Santa Cruz Water and Power Districts Association agreeing to be participants, with SRP serving as Project Manager. At that time SRP called the project Palo Verde to Southeast Valley/Build Out Browning or PV-SEV/BOB. The Project participants formed an advisory committee that provides Project oversight.

SRP introduced the Project by issuing three media releases explaining the CATS study and the need to initiate the Project. SRP also met with each of the three Arizona Corporation Commissioners as well as the supervisors in Maricopa and Pinal Counties.

It was SRP's and the participants goal to have an extensive public process, one that would involve the public and integrate public comments into the routing process. SRP realized that this would be a major task, given the length of the proposed transmission line.

In February 2002, SRP issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) for an environmental consultant. Within the RFP, SRP asked the bidders to propose a public process that would meet the goals and objectives that were envisioned. SRP received seven responses to the RFP and was particularly impressed by Greystone Environmental Consultants. Greystone's response included previous high voltage transmission line siting experience, overall environmental capabilities, and recent experience in Pinal County. Additionally, Greystone proposed unique elements in its public involvement process which included the creation of a community panel and a three phase public process.

The community panel concept proposed by Greystone was called a Community Representative Forum (CRF) and was a unique concept. In past cases, SRP and other utilities have used various versions of a community panel, made up of people with diverse interests, and representatives of the community interests as a whole. This type of group is very effective, and has produced good results in the past. But, the approach has also been criticized, mainly because the panel members

may have been chosen by the Applicant or the Consultant, which might suggest that they could be influenced.

CRF panel members are not chosen by the Applicant nor the Consultant; rather the members are selected by elected bodies and the various organizations in the communities. Greystone's CRF concept proposed including representatives of government and community organizations through a selection process that was objective. SRP thought this approach provided a very good representation of community interest, without carrying with it the criticism that the Applicant or Consultant had "stacked the deck".

Greystone proposed a three phase public process. The process was very consistent with the SRP objective to conduct an open public process. This included having the public provide input on siting criteria and interactive exercises for incorporating public input and comment. The three phase process worked in conjunction with the CRF and included open houses for the general public. The first phase introduced the Project need and benefit, the second phase involved identifying siting criteria for opportunities and sensitivities and the third phase involved development of routing alternatives.

In addition, on many projects, the environmental consultant is retained to analyze the environmental aspects of preconceived route alternatives. Then the project would take these routes to the public for comments. This Project was different, in that Greystone was given a blank slate of the Project study area without any preconceived routes. Within the physical requirements of the Project, Greystone's role was to formulate the public process and define routes that are environmentally compatible.

The SRP team was assembled in early 2002 and assisted in the development of the RFP and with the selection of the consultant. SRP had a diverse team which included public involvement staff, transmission and substation engineers, environmental specialists, and Operations and Maintenance staff. The manager of the SRP team is the Project Manager, Dan Hawkins.

SRP retained Greystone in May of 2002. The Greystone team was comprised of an interdisciplinary group of technical specialists, such as biologists, archaeologists, land use planners and GIS specialists. The manager of the Greystone team is Kenda Pollio.

The first steps in the Project also involved refining the geographic boundaries of the Project study area, identifying the organizations to be involved in the CRF, and establishing a schedule for the three phase public process. While the Project team consisted of both Greystone and SRP, Greystone was given independence to complete its proposed Scope of Work as outlined in its proposal and independently develop routing alternatives. SRP provided assistance with public involvement and on design, operation and maintenance, constructability, reliability and system issues associated with the general study area.

### **Public Process**

## Phase I

The initial step in Phase I was the formation of the CRF. Greystone identified the organizations in the Project study area which included the municipal planning organizations, councils, mayors and city managers. Greystone also included the school boards, economic development councils, Indian Communities, county supervisors and environmental organizations. The team reviewed the CRF organization list with the cities and counties and added organizations that may not be on the list. Greystone mailed a letter to each organization and then the organization selected a CRF member. The Project team did not participate in selecting these individuals. In some cases an organization would send different representatives to the different meetings. The CRFs were not closed meetings; they were open to the public and on occasion members of the public attended.

The Project team began the process of reviewing the format for the meetings and developing meeting materials. Greystone also initiated data collection within the Project study area. There was a team workshop with Greystone and SRP to go over the first phase meetings and materials.

Greystone had conducted recent project work in Pinal County including the Sundance and Montezuma Generating Facilities and had an existing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database for the Project area. Greystone used the existing database and began expanding and updating it. Greystone used a software program known as ArcMap. Greystone planned to utilize this software as an interactive tool during the public process, and in Project hearings. ArcMap typically uses aerial photographs as a base map and additional data layers are created and used singly or in combination for analysis, as well as visual representation. Aerial photographs of the study area were flown in 2002, 2003, and 2004 to ensure up-to-date information. Examples of ArcMap datalayers include municipal boundaries, existing roads, transmission lines, pipelines, and canals.

SRP and Greystone also conducted a series of briefings for city and county officials early in Phase I. Discussions in these briefings included the regional transmission study, CATS, Project need, the CRF concept (invited participation by their organization), the three phase public process, and the proposed schedule.

In this time frame, Greystone was continuing work on the GIS database. In addition, Greystone conducted a literature review of existing environmental studies and began to create the data layers of environmentally sensitive areas. Greystone also began the field work to identify additional environmentally sensitive areas.

Phase I was Need and Benefit and Greytsone's concept was to introduce the public and stakeholders to the regional transmission system plan, CATS, and why the Project was needed. Most projects do not initiate the public process with only a study area and need and benefit determined. Interested parties did not anticipate being involved in this phase and had expected to see lines on a map. However, Greystone presented the need and benefit information and discussed how Greystone was going to take people through the process of route development.

The goal of the CRF was to educate the representatives, so that they could respond to questions and be a source of information about the Project within their communities and act as a sounding board for the message and materials that would be distributed in the Open Houses. The team also hoped CRF participants could teach and inform the Project team about the values of various communities within the study area. The Phase I CRF meeting was held over a long lunch at the Francisco Grande in June of 2002 and 47 people attended from the 63 organizations invited. In attendance were representatives from the communities, the tribes, environmental organizations and a federal agency. During the CRF, Greystone introduced the Project, went over the CATS effort, discussed the need for the Project, and described what would happen in future phases. Greystone gave each member a three ring binder for the materials distributed at the meeting, and for future materials.

To notice the Open Houses, Greystone mailed out over 150,000 notices to all addresses within the Project study area zip codes and posted over 57 flyers in public places throughout the study area. Finally SRP published notices in eleven local newspapers. In addition, notices were mailed to the database list (the list maintained since the summer of 2001 for anyone who contacted SRP or Greystone or provided contact information via the website), media packets were provided to individual newspapers, and SRP held meetings to introduce reporters to the project.

Greystone held five public open houses during Phase I. These were held during July 2002 at locations distributed throughout the study area in Casa Grande, Coolidge, Queen Creek, Arlington and Mobile. The purpose of the open houses was again to educate people about the Project and the public process. Greystone used an open house format with stations and solicited input, through comment stations and mail-in comment forms. The team also developed a Project website and had a 1-800 phone number that allowed people to provide comments.

#### Phase II

Following Phase I Greystone summarized the results from the CRF and Open Houses and continued developing the GIS database. The team conducted aerial reconnaissance by helicopter and conducted on-the-ground field efforts to verify baseline data and opportunities and sensitivities. Greystone also conducted a Class I archaeology survey. The team also had land use planners meet with each municipal planning jurisdiction.

Greystone started to identify the Opportunities and Sensitivities which initiated Phase II.

Routing opportunities provide advantageous siting corridors characterized by the potential for corridor sharing with existing linear facilities or physical features. Sensitive areas are those where a transmission line could be sited, but only with the consideration of routing and/or the application of specific construction methods or additional licensing/permitting procedures.

Phase II was the most important part of the siting process. Input received from municipal jurisdictions and stakeholders was critical in developing Project Opportunities and Sensitivities that best represent community values and perceptions. This input would then be used to develop viable route alternatives for Phase III.

Greystone prepared comprehensive data layers that mapped opportunities and sensitivities in the study area. This information would be further refined and validated throughout the public process. SRP and Greystone conducted another series of briefings for city and county officials to discuss the objective of Phase II, which was to obtain input regarding the most sensitive places to site a transmission line as well as the best opportunities to locate a transmission line in their communities.

During this time, the original PV-SEV/BOB was split into two projects; PV-PW and PW-SEV/BRG, the latter of which is the Project before the Committee. Although SRP split the Project geographically, the public process remained integrated so that both Projects could be discussed during the public process.

The Phase II CRF was in September 2002 at the Casa Grande Council Chambers. The CRF was a working session where participants were broken into several small-facilitated working groups, which focused on characterizing routing Opportunities and Sensitive areas.

Specifically, Greystone gave each attendee a named tag with 1 of 4 different colored dots. The color designated the subgroup for the exercises that Greystone would facilitate. Greystone wanted to ensure that each subgroup was diverse by geographic area and jurisdictional representation to be spread through each group.

The CRF participants were then separated into four teams and were asked to conduct a transmission line siting exercise in a fictitious municipality that was called Springfield. The goal was to understand the general siting and routing issues and thought processes associated with siting transmission facilities. For example, there were parks, threatened and endangered species habitat, residential areas, planned communities, existing transmission lines, pipelines and highways. Each group was tasked with the job of determining a transmission line route in Springfield, considering all of the opportunities and sensitivities.

The second exercise started with a list of Opportunities and Sensitivities Greystone has used on previous transmission line projects. The goal was to receive a sense of community's values and perceptions for primary and secondary locations or opportunities for siting a line. Greystone also wanted to understand the communities sense of what may be perceived as high, moderate or low sensitivity. The results of the exercise were summarized and distributed. Based on the results, the Opportunities were split into two categories, Primary and Secondary and the Sensitive areas into three categories, High, Medium and Low.

In the third exercise the four teams were given the Project study area that had been broken down into sub-study area maps with the Opportunities and Sensitivities on the map. Each team was asked to draw the "best" opportunity from one end of the Project sub-study area to the other. Each team was asked to repeat the exercise on each sub-study area, identifying a different opportunity than the previous team. Greystone got four different routes, some with some common themes.

For the open houses, Greystone mailed out over 150,000 notices. This included the database mailing list and all addresses within the Project study area zip codes and posted over 30 flyers in

public places throughout the study area. Finally SRP published notices in eleven local newspapers.

Phase II had five Open Houses in October 2002 in Casa Grande, Coolidge, Arlington, Queen Creek and Stanfield. The Open Houses were divided into several stations, each with specific information including: Need and Benefit, Opportunities, Sensitive Areas, Aerial Imagery and Structure & Substation Design. In addition to informational stations, and one-on-one exchange of information, there were several exercises at the Open Houses, which were focused on obtaining input on Opportunity and Sensitive Areas.

A similar interactive exercise from the CRF meeting was held at the Open Houses. Attendees were given five color-coded dots to be placed on a board by each category of Opportunity and Sensitivity. There was a more traditional station to provide verbal and written comments. Also, a GIS station was available, which included the May 2002 aerial photography of the Project study area with the digital ArcMap data coverages for attendees to view and provide their comments and make real-time changes.

### Phase III

At the end of Phase II, Greystone independently evaluated and analyzed the potential routing alternatives, based on the categorized Opportunities and Sensitivities and the comments received from the public. At this point, Greystone took the first cut at putting alternatives on the map. SRP started evaluating constructability, cost and system planning opportunities. Specifically, SRP started evaluating system reliability and system benefits of an interconnection at Santa Rosa and Pinal South. SRP continued meeting with the Project advisory committee.

Greystone utilized the GIS database to analytically evaluate the primary opportunities against the area of the highest sensitivities. Greystone went through a screening process to identify potential routes. In the screening process, Greystone evaluated those opportunities that had a wrong directional orientation and/or went through high sensitivity areas. Through this process, Greystone developed a first set of alternative routes.

Greystone facilitated an internal team workshop to present the potential routing alternatives it had evaluated and the Project team refined these to ultimately come up with the routing alternatives for Phase III. SRP's input consisted of system needs and engineering feasibility of the alternatives as well as the initial evaluation of costs.

SRP and Greystone conducted another series of briefings for city and county officials where routing alternatives were presented and continued participation in the CRF was encouraged.

Phase III had a higher number of Project inquiries by phone, meetings, emails and the website which required an increased level of interaction between community members and the Project team.

The objective of Phase III was to consolidate input from the previous CRF's and Open Houses to develop possible routing alternatives for the Project. In order to make the routing alternatives

easier to provide comments, Greystone broke the Project alternatives into families of alternatives.

The CRF was held at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande in Nov. 2002 and was intended to be a working session in which participants would break into small, facilitated working groups, focusing on the potential routing alternatives. This CRF had a higher attendance because a member of the public put an advertisement of this meeting in a local paper.

During this CRF the participants split into groups to discuss each family of alternatives. This exercise correlated color comment forms to the colors of "Families of Alternatives", and each person could provide specific comments on line segment alternatives. The objective was to obtain comments on the best alternative within that family, consistent with the routing criteria. This allowed people to focus comments.

For the Phase III Open Houses, Greystone mailed out over 150,000 notices. This included the database and all addresses within the Project study area zip codes and posted over 40 flyers in public places throughout the study area. Finally SRP published notices in eleven local newspapers.

There were five Open Houses held in December 2002 in Casa Grande, Coolidge, Queen Creek Maricopa and Arlington. The Open Houses were divided into several stations, each with specific information including: Need and Benefit (summary of Phase I Open Houses), Opportunities, Sensitivities (summary of Phase II Open Houses), Routing and Alternatives (Phase III), and Electrical Information.

In addition to informational stations, one station held an exercise to obtain additional public input similar to the CRF. Additionally, there was a more traditional station to provide verbal and written comments. A GIS station was available, which included the aerial photography of the Project study area with the digital ArcMap data coverage(s) for attendees to view and provide their comments.

#### Phase IV

The public process for the two projects split at this time. The PV-PW Project was finalizing routing alternatives and separate additional public meetings were held in order to file the Application for a CEC. Subsequently, the PV-PW Project was certificated in early 2004 as Case 124.

On the PW-SEV/BRG Project, Greystone consolidated comments from the phases and initiated an exhaustive on-the-ground field verification for all potential routing alternatives. In addition, SRP continued evaluating constructability, cost and system planning opportunities and system reliability issues. SRP also looked at the feasibility of an alternative on the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC).

The Project team conducted an analysis of each potential routing alternatives environmental parameters, engineering and constructability issues, costs parameters, etc. Greystone was also

refreshing the biological database by conducting habitat assessments, completing a Class I archaeological survey and meeting with land use planners to ensure up-to-date information.

Greystone refined alternatives to reflect input from the public process, working with the affected jurisdictions and continued environmental evaluations and engineering and system need evaluations.

During this time there were significant changes occurring in Pinal County, specifically the number of proposed developments had significantly increased. The Project team realized the PAD information needed to be updated because developments had not been filed with jurisdictions.

The Project team decided to conduct a Developers and Home Builders Workshop. Greystone mailed invitations to all home builders and developers listed in the database as well as all those that the team had identified from working with the municipal jurisdictions. In addition, Greystone worked with the Central Arizona Home Builders Association to send an email notice to their membership distribution.

These meetings were held over three days in June 2004 at the PERA Club in Tempe. The meetings used an Open House format to provide Project background and process. It was a working group format where developers and home builders could draw their proposals on the maps or work with a GIS station to enter their information real-time. The Project team received a significant amount of information on additional proposed developments. Greystone took the information from the workshops and held additional individual meetings with developers, land owners and stakeholders. This also assisted in evaluating a refined set of alternatives.

The Project wanted to ensure the public was aware of the refined alternative alignments and that a Preferred Alignment had been identified.

While the first three public process phases focused on objective environmental and engineering criteria, Phase IV considered some subjective criteria, such as the specific desires of community leaders.

Notice for Phase IV Open Houses was mailed to over 126,000 addresses in the zip code list. The Project conducted a title search of all land owners within ½ mile on each side of the Preferred Alignment and Alternatives. This included over 24,000 adjacent property owners.

The four Open Houses were held in July 2004 in Casa Grande, Coolidge, Queen Creek and Maricopa. The Open Houses were divided into several stations, each with specific information including: Need and Benefit (summary of Phase I OH), Opportunities and Sensitivities (summary of Phase II OH), Preferred Alignment and Alternatives, the Planned Area Development by smaller sub-area, Routing and Alternatives (Phase III), and Electrical Information.

There was an interactive GIS station that allowed people to view their property real-time in relation to the Preferred Alignment and Alternatives and have a color map to take with them.

At this time, the Project was receiving many calls and contacts from people and groups of residents in the Hidden Valley area. As a result, the Project held an additional meeting to provide information and gather comments from this area. Greystone sent notices to all the zip codes, adjacent property owners and the database refined to this area. SRP also posted flyers and placed an ad in local papers. Two additional public meetings were also held in the Hidden Valley area, and as a result, the Project modified its Preferred Alignment.

Greystone, along with SRP, completed preparation of this Application that has been filed on this matter. The routing alternatives, including the Preferred Alignment, are as they were developed in the public process.